

# Congregations & Early Childhood

*From the Early Childhood Faith Initiative, a collaboration between Durham's Partnership for Children & End Poverty Durham*

Fifth Edition

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### SECTION 1: FAITH COORDINATOR NEWS

Support our work! Please consider matching our **\$25,000 challenge grant** as you make year-end contributions personally and from outreach budgets. For questions in regard to donations, please contact Ted Whiteside at [ted@dpfc.net](mailto:ted@dpfc.net) or 919-403-6960 or send donations to Attn: Durham's Partnership for Children, 1201 S. Briggs Ave, Suite 210, Durham, NC 27703 with a note on the check: Child Poverty Faith Initiative.

Also please don't forget to provide a book to a child in need through the Barnes & Noble (Southpoint location) Book Drive in cooperation with Durham's Partnership for Children.

Contact Winnie Morgan for questions or to speak to your congregation at [winniewmorgan@juno.com](mailto:winniewmorgan@juno.com).

### SECTION 2: RESOURCES & MATERIALS

Faith Dickens, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, finds the magazine, "Children's Ministry", most useful as well as their Web site, [www.childrensministry.com](http://www.childrensministry.com). Online you can find great teacher tips and lessons written for birth to age 2 and ages 3 to 5. Their Web site is full of ideas. Check it out.

Don't forget to use the handout: *Faith in our Future: Congregations and Children Birth to Five* (<http://dpfc.net/EarlyChildhoodFaithInitiative.aspx>). Created locally & available in English & Spanish.

### SECTION 3: QUOTES

Have you ever used quotes to teach lessons? Consider using the following to teach children to give:

If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one. *Mother Teresa*

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give. *Kahlil Gibran*

If you have much, give of your wealth; If you have little, give of your heart. *Arab Proverb*

Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared. *Buddha*

## SECTION 4: SHARING IDEAS

This season generates a mental attitude of giving. Are we teaching our youngest to give to those that are less fortunate than us? Here are some ideas for giving during this season, but please remember to continue to give to the underserved throughout the year. Cold weather is especially difficult for the less fortunate. Consider incorporating a few of these projects in your programming with children in your congregation:

**Winter Clothing** (thru Dec 31) Welcome Baby needs winter clothing especially winter coats for young children (2T-5T). Donations can be dropped at Durham Cooperative Extension Bldg, 721 Foster Street. Call 560-7340 or email: [vdbrown@durhamcounty.gov](mailto:vdbrown@durhamcounty.gov).

**Books:** Read Seed, Inc. gives gently used books to organizations serving at-risk children, especially those with limited school readiness skills. Collect books and share them with Read Seed. Call 794-8122 or [www.readseed.org](http://www.readseed.org)

**Cribs for Kids (Durham Connects):** \$50 will buy a new safe crib for a family in need. They aim to reduce SIDS and stress on parents and children with a safe sleeping place. Looking for a gift... donate a crib in someone's honor! Or have your children fundraise \$50. For more info, call 668-3295 or their Web site: [www.durhamconnects.org](http://www.durhamconnects.org)

**Birthday Cakes:** Help your children bake a cake and donate it to *Healthy Families Durham* for a mom with a young child that has never had a birthday cake. Contact Jan Williams at [jan.williams@duke.edu](mailto:jan.williams@duke.edu)

**Coats & Other Winter Clothing:** Donate new or gently used coats at any of the participating Jiffy Lube or First Citizens Bank locations in Durham. View a detailed list of [drop-off locations](#). In addition to clean coats, WRAL is asking the public to donate other winter clothing items, including gently used gloves and hats and new underwear, T-shirts and socks to completely outfit a child for the winter months. Any size coat will be accepted; however, larger sizes for teens and adults and infant sizes are in particular demand.

**Sponsor a Family:** Call Durham Department of Social Services, if you would like to contribute to unmet family requests. They get last minute requests of those that have not been served by anyone. Call: 560-8394.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[www.dpfc.net/EarlyChildhoodFaithInitiative.aspx](http://www.dpfc.net/EarlyChildhoodFaithInitiative.aspx);

[www.endpovertydurham.org](http://www.endpovertydurham.org);

[www.heckmanequation.org](http://www.heckmanequation.org); [www.developingchild.harvard.edu](http://www.developingchild.harvard.edu),

*Better Brains for Babies* (<http://www.fcs.uga.edu/ext/bbb/factSheets.php>)

To **unsubscribe** or for **more information**, contact Winnie Morgan at [winniewmorgan@juno.com](mailto:winniewmorgan@juno.com).

We would appreciate your feedback on this newsletter and ideas to be shared with others on birth to five and their parents in congregations. Please forward this newsletter to appropriate persons on your staff or submit their e-mail.